GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4229
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005
HIKE IN CHARGES FOR NIGHT VIEWING OF TAJ
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has hiked the charges for night viewing of Taj;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the ASI has opposed the hike in the charges which anticipated reduction in tourist traffic and thereby fall in revenue earning; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the tourist traffic for night viewing?

Answer

MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S.JAIPAL REDDY)

(a)&(b) No, Sir. The rates of ticket for night viewing of Taj Mahal are as under:

Indian citizens	:	Rs.510 per head
Others	:	Rs.750 per head
Children (3-15 years)	:	Rs.500 per head

(c) No, Sir. The rate of entry fee for night viewing was fixed based upon the additional cost for providing security, and for regulating the number of visitors as the Supreme Court of India had directed to allow only 400 visitors per night. The number of tourists who visited night viewing since November, 2004 till March, 2005 is at Annexure.

(d) As the number of tourists for night viewing so far has not touched the maximum permissible number of 400 visitors per night, any steps for increasing the tourist traffic for night viewing does not arise at this stage.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) TO THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4229 FOR 21.4.2005

NUMBER OF VISITORS FOR NIGHT VIEWING OF TAJ MAHAL FROM NOVEMBER, 2004 TO MARCH, 2005

Month & Year	Date	Adults (Indian + Foreigner)	Child	Total numbers of visitors for night viewing of Taj Mahal
		Indian	Foreigner	
November, 2004	27.11.04	229	49	23	301
	28.11.04	204	119	24	34
Total		433	168	47	648
December, 2004	26.12.04	154	42	29	225
	27.12.04	137	47	42	226

28.12.04 140 85 63 288

Total 431 174 134 739

January, 2005 23.1.05 24 36 03 63
24.1.05 107 71 00 178
25.1.05 96 113 13 222
26.1.05 28 80 00 108
27.1.05 21 51 05 77

Total 276 351 21 648

Feb. 2005 22.02.05 22 130 04 156
23.02.05 34 84 00 118
24.02.05 86 88 06 180
26.02.05 45 83 10 138

Total: 187 385 20 592

March, 2005 23.03.2005 16 55 04 75
24.03.2005 96 60 18 174
26.03.2005 193 68 33 294
27.03.2005 19 28 02 49

Total: 324 211 57 592